Posts	Minimum leftover service
	The purpose of this tenure is to maintain continuity in the posts for formulation and implementation of the policies at the higher management levels.

(c) No such condition is applicable in Group 'C' and 'D' categories.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The induction of Group 'B' officers in Group 'A' is made in Junior Scale which is lowest grade with no policy formulating function.

[*English*]

Oil Drilling in Kerala

2798. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) when the drilling for oil and natural gas was started in Kollam Sea Port in Kerala; and

(b) the outcome of the efforts made so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No drilling has been taken up in Kollam Sea Port.

(b) Does not arise.

Petrol, Diesel Retail Outlets

2799. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol, diesel retail outlets in the country as a whole, in Bihar, and in Purnea, Araria and Kishanganj districts of Bihar particularly, separately as on April 1,1989, April 1, 1990 and April 1, 1991;

(b) the corresponding number of outlets programmed for 1991-92; and

(c) the number in (a) and (b) included in the above for various categories such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Unemployed Graduates, Physically Handicapped etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (c).

STATEMENT

Date	*Total for the country*	*SC/ST UG, PH, etc.*	*Bihar*	*Purnia, Araria & Kishanganj*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1.4.89	14482	1939	868	29
1.4.90	14783	2132	892	31
1.4.91	15056	2253	908	31

(b) Outlets are opened as per Marketing Plans and policy inforce from time to time. While some of the outlets planned in the previous Marketing Plans are yet to be commissioned, no new programme has been finalised for the year 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

Rail Link in Keonjhar District of Orissa

2800. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for according approval to lay new railway lines;

(b) whether the previous Government had accorded approval for laying new railway lines in Keonjhar District of Orissa;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The new line projects are taken up as per the following criteria based on the recommendations made by the National Transport Policy Committee in May, 1980;

(i) Project-oriented lines to serve new industries, tap mineral or other resources.

(ii) To serve as a missing link which can form alternative routes to *relieve the congestion on existing busy rail routes.*

(iii) On strategic considerations.

(iv) As developmental lines to establish new growth centres of give access to remote areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Cost of Production of Petroleum Products

2801. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The cost of production of kerosene, diesel and petrol per litre;

(b) the actual sale price prevailing at present for each of these products; and

(c) the reasons for such a big gap between the cost of production and sale price of each products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The cost of production varies depending on the age of the plant, technology used, the crude mix etc. The prices of kerosene, diesel and petrol are fixed taking into account various socio-economic factors. Presently the prices are:

Product	*Ex-storage point price (Rs./KL)*
Kerosene (Non Industrial use)	2201.54
Diesel	4541.91
Petrol (MS87)	13416.11